Claims

1. Rod-shaped massaging appliance with an essentially cylindrical end piece, with a wall or shell (7) made of a rubber-elastic material forming the outer surface of the end piece and with a drive unit for generating movement on the end piece, characterized in that the drive unit forms a plurality of bearing and support surfaces (4.2, 8.1), against which the shell (7) bears, and
that the drive unit is designed for an oscillating deformation of the shell (7) relative to a longitudinal axis of the end piece radially outward and inward, so that this deformation takes place along the longitudinal axis of the end piece and/or in the peripheral direction of the end piece, preferably phase-delayed.

2. Massaging appliance according to claim 1, characterized in that the bearing or support surfaces for the shell (7) are formed by a plurality of support elements, which can be driven by at least one drive element (6) for a radial stroke motion.

3. Massaging appliance according to claim 2, characterized in that the support elements are jaws (4).

4. Massaging appliance according to claim 2 or 3, characterized in that several support elements (4) are arranged respectively in a common plane perpendicular to the longitudinal extension of the end piece and form one group of support elements, and that a plurality of such groups is provided successively in the longitudinal direction of the end piece.

5. Massaging appliance according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that for moving the support surfaces and/or the support elements (4) forming said support surfaces, at least one shaft (6) forming at least one eccentric section (6.1) is provided, which (shaft) works together with the support elements (4) and can be driven by a drive unit.

6. Massaging appliance according to claim 5, characterized in that the at least one eccentric section extends parallel or approximately parallel to the axis of the shaft (6) at least over a partial length of the at least one shaft (6).

7. Massaging appliance according to claim 5, characterized in that the at least one eccentric section extends diagonally to the axis of the shaft (6) at least over a partial length of the at least one shaft (6).

8. Massaging appliance according to claim 5, characterized in that the at least one eccentric section is twisted along the axis of the at least one shaft (6) so that it extends on a helical line on the axis of the shaft.

9. Massaging appliance according to one of the claims 5 through 8, characterized in that the at least one eccentric section is formed by one edge of the at least one shaft (6).

10. Massaging appliance according to one of the claims 5 through 9, characterized in that the eccentric section is formed by the fact that the at least one shaft (6) has, at least on its shaft section (6.1) working together with the support elements (4), a non-circular cross section, for example a polygonal or essentially polygonal cross section, e.g. triangular or rectangular.

11. Massaging appliance according to one of the preceding claims, characterized by a single shaft (6) working together with the support elements (4).

12. Massaging appliance according to one of the preceding claims, characterized by a plurality of shafts (6) working together with the support elements (4).

13. Massaging appliance according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the eccentric section (6.1) of the at least one shaft (6) working together with the support elements (4) features a plurality of eccentric surfaces or areas.

14. Massaging appliance according to claim 13, characterized in that the number of eccentric areas or surfaces is equal to the number of support elements (4) in each group of such elements.

15. Massaging appliance according to claim 13, characterized in that the number of eccentric areas or surfaces is different from the number of support elements (4) in each group of such elements.

16. Massaging appliance according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the inner bearing and support surfaces for the shell (7) are formed by eccentric sections (8.1) of shafts (8) that are oriented with their longitudinal extension in the direction of the longitudinal axis (GL) of the end piece and can be driven by a drive unit.

17. Massaging appliance according to claim 16, characterized in that the at least one eccentric section of the respective shaft (8) extends parallel or approximately parallel to the axis of the

shaft at least over a partial length of the shaft (8).

18. Massaging appliance according to claim 16, characterized in that the at least one eccentric section of the respective shaft (8) extends diagonally to the axis of the shaft at least over a partial length of the shaft (8).

19. Massaging appliance according to claim 16, characterized in that the at least one eccentric section of the respective shaft (8) is twisted at least on a partial length along the axis of the shaft so that it extends on a helical line on the axis of the shaft.

20. Massaging appliance according to one of the claims 16 through 19, characterized in that the at least one eccentric section is formed by one edge of the respective shaft (8).

21. Massaging appliance according to one of the claims 16 through 20, characterized in that the eccentric section is formed by the fact that the respective shaft (8) has a non-circular cross section, for example a polygonal or essentially polygonal cross section, e.g. triangular or rectangular.

22. Massaging appliance according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that at least two eccentric areas or surfaces offset on the axis of the shaft are formed on the eccentric section.

23. Massaging appliance according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that at least one support element (9) is provided for several shafts (8), each featuring one eccentric section (8.1).